

Message Text

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62- S

ORIGIN SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 VO-03 SS-14 NSC-10 M-03 PER-05

PRS-01 SY-07 L-03 A-01 RSC-01 /061 R

DRAFTED BY SCA/ VO: CDSCULLY: SCA: WNDAL: REM

MARCH 13, 1973 EXT. 22448

APPROVED BY SCA: BARBARA M. WATSON

S/ PRS - MR. KING (DRAFT)

ARA/ MGT - MR. ACKERMAN (DRAFT)

SY - MR. SCROGGS (DRAFT)

----- 043137

R 131922 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

INFO AMCONSUL CALI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045936

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CVIS CO

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF NIV FUNCTIONS AT CALI

REF: BOGOTA' S 1871

1. DEPT IS CONCERNED BY MANNER IN WHICH SUSPENSION OF NIV FUNCTION AT CALI AND PRESS RELEASE WERE HANDLED. ALTHOUGH DEPT HAD BEEN AWARE THAT INVESTIGATION OF VISA IRREGULARITIES AT CALI IN PROGRESS, IT WAS NOT CONSULTED NOR EVEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF ACTIONS DESCRIBED IN REFTEL.

2. CESSATION OF NIV ISSUANCE, EVEN FOR LIMITED TIME, AT ANY POST WHERE THAT FUNCTION IS NORMALLY PERFORMED AFFECTS SECSTATE' S STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTRATION IMMIGRATION LAWS AND SHOULD ALWAYS BE SUBJECT TO PRIOR CONSULTATION. SINCE SECSTATE' S RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS FIELD HAS BEEN DELEGATED TO ADMINISTRATOR, SCA, IT MANDATORY THAT ADMINISTRATOR BE CONSULTED IN ADVANCE CONCERNING ANY PROPOSED ACTIONS AFFECTING SUCH MATTERS. IN ADDITION, IF QUESTIONS ARISE IN PRESS, PUBLIC OR CONGRESS CONCERNING

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LEGALITY, PROPRIETY OR WISDOM OF ACTIONS TAKEN, ADMINISTRATOR WOULD BE PUT IN POSITION OF HAVING TO DEFEND ACTIONS TAKEN WITHOUT PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OR APPROVAL.

3. DEPT ALSO QUESTIONS THRUST OF PRESS RELEASE QUOTED IN REFTEL. IT PUTS VISA FIXERS ON NOTICE THAT GREATER PRECAUTIONS WILL BE TAKEN AND MAY CAUSE THOSE WHO FORMERLY

USED VISA FIXERS TO OBTAIN VALID VISAS BY FRAUDULENT MEANS TO TURN TO OUTRIGHT COUNTERFEITERS. SINCE DEPT WILL SHORTLY INTRODUCE NEW R-500 RIBBON IN EFFORT TO COMBAT AND DETECT COUNTERFEITS, IT SEEMS THIS INOPPORTUNE TIME TO ALERT COUNTERFEITERS. FINALLY, PRESS RELEASE RAISES PROBLEM OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF SENSITIVE INFORMATION WHICH COULD EVENTUALLY IMPLICATE U. S. AS WELL AS LOCAL PERSONNEL. ROGERS

NOTE BY OC/ T: DISSEMINATION COORDINATED WITH S/ S- O, MR. EALUM.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: CVIS, CO
To: BOGOTA
CALI
Type: TE
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